Message in a Bottle – Play, Stories, and Iteration

On the message inside the bottle:

If you discovered this message in the bottle, we are grateful for your effort to participate in active communication and exchange. You are the superhero of your story and your hero's journey defines allegiance to your ideals and expression of your ideas. How will you define your purpose?

Renne Emiko Brock / Zinnia Zauber

Renne Emiko Brock

artist - instructor - superhero
advocate of awesomeness

uniqueasyou.com @renneemiko
Zinnia Zauber in virtual worlds

Education

Certificate in Virtual Worlds,
University of Washington

Masters of Fine Arts in Visual Art,
Vermont College of Norwich University

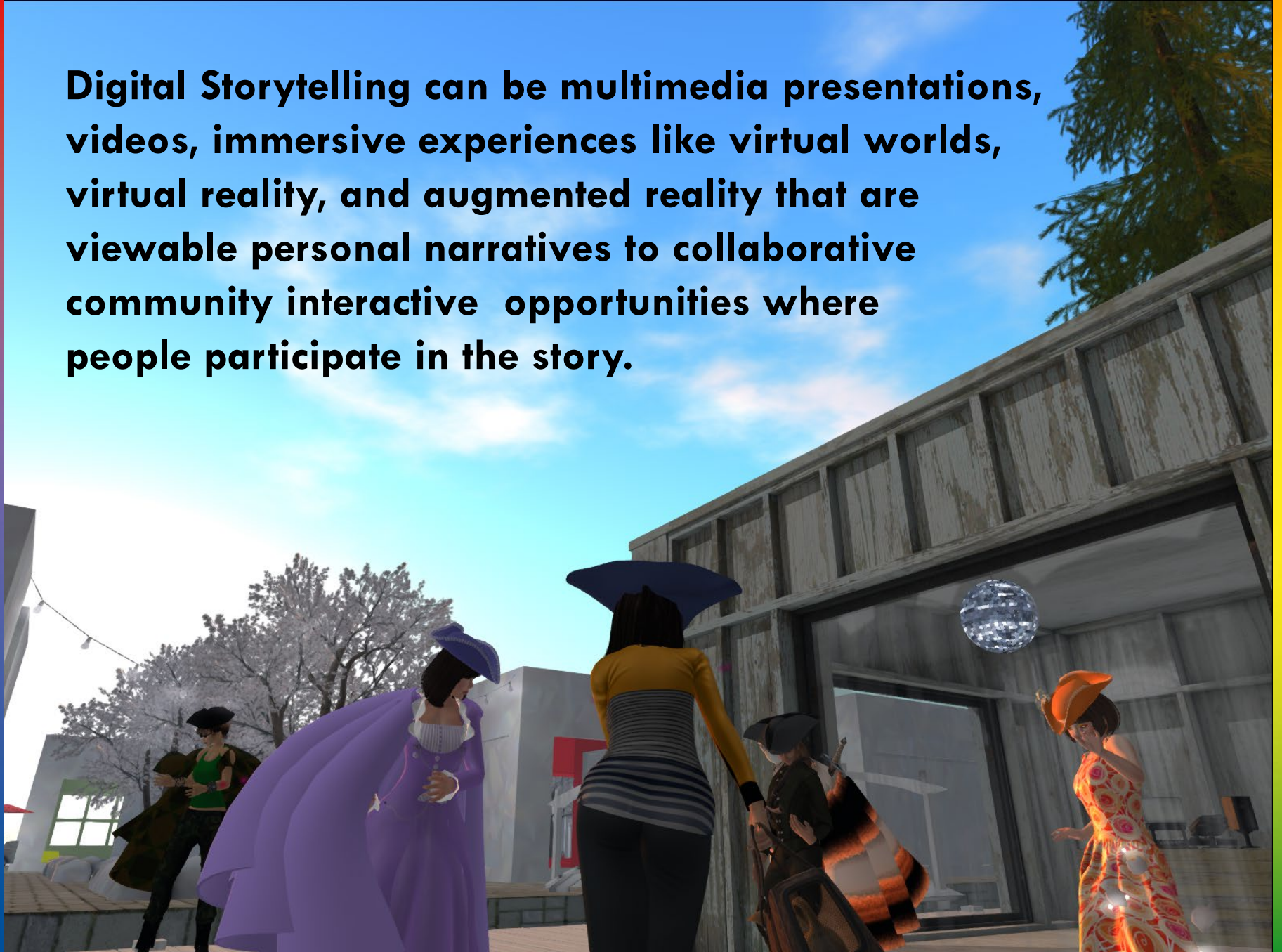Bachelors of Science in Art,
Lewis & Clark College

Instruction

Peninsula College, University of
Washingion, Federal Consortum for
Virtual Worlds at National Defense
University, Virtual Worlds Best Practices
in Education, Rockcliffe Uniersity,
Techsoup Global, Nonprofit Commons in
Second Life, and Monterey Peninsula
College

Award winning Artist, Educator, and
Arts Advocate

Digital Storytelling can be multimedia presentations, videos, immersive experiences like virtual worlds, virtual reality, and augmented reality that are viewable personal narratives to collaborative community interactive opportunities where people participate in the story.
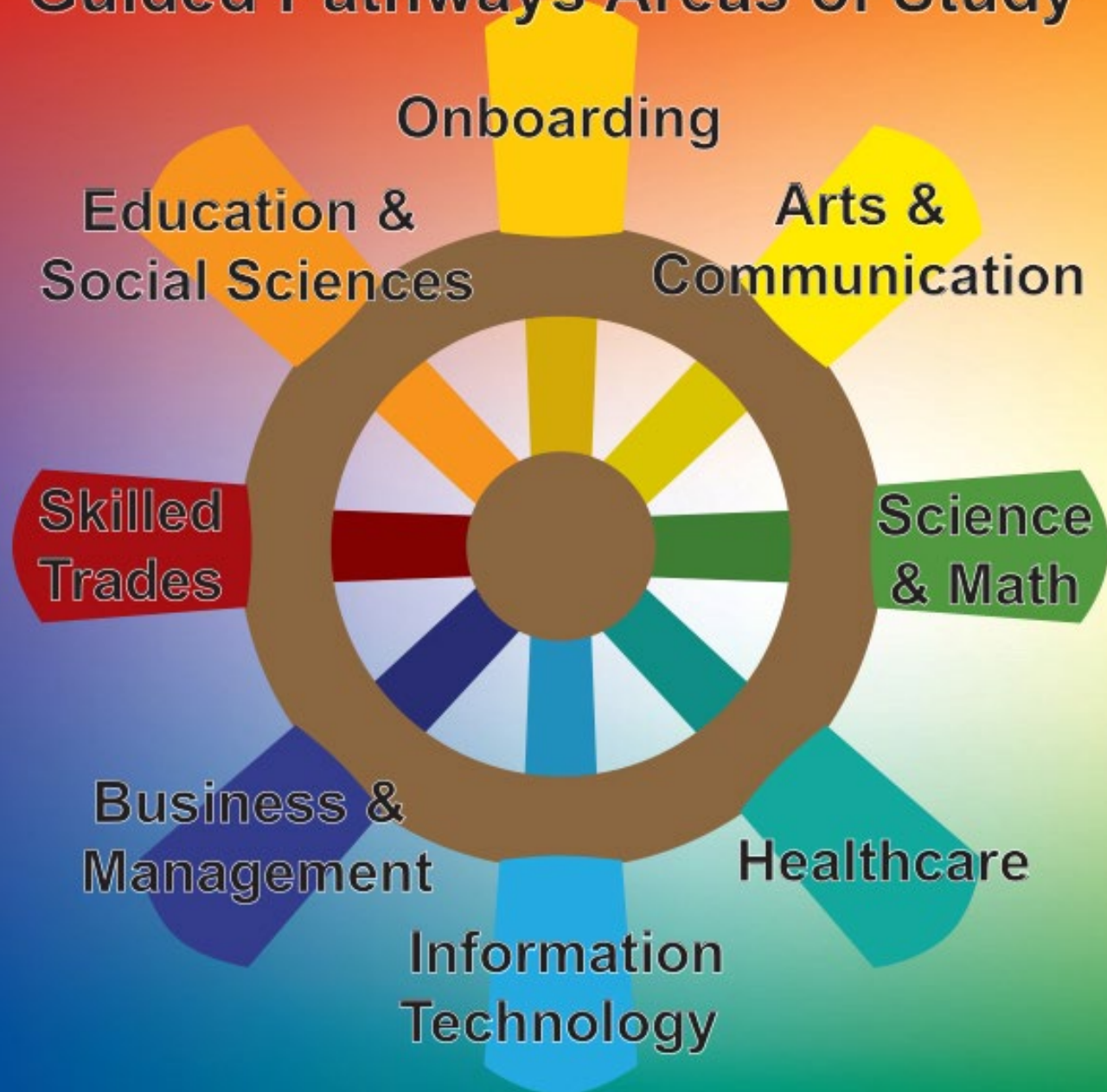
eXtended Reality (XR) a broad term used to describe immersive and engaging technologies that can weave inclusive virtual worlds, 3D and 360 degree experiences, and the physical world together.

The Digital Storytelling Superhero's Journey New Student Orientation with Guided Pathways Interactive Project is persistent virtual learning environment to engage, inform, and inspire new students and advance institutional understanding at Peninsula College. Developed and designed by Professor Brock, Multimedia Communications students explore learning outcomes, expound, assemble, and institute project components. The continual goal of the project is to build an innovative marketing space and introduction to the college through an adventure filled with information, helpful resources, encouragement, and inclusive experiences.

Guided Pathways Areas of Study

Onboarding

Education & Social Sciences

Arts & Communication

Skilled Trades

Science & Math

Business & Management

Healthcare

Information Technology

After The Superhero's Journey, Peninsula College students can explore our Guided Pathways Areas of Study. Each pathway also splits off to smaller trails of the college's departments.

A steering helm or a great oak tree visually expresses the branching nature of Guided Pathways.

We build virtual scenes with engagement about all the college degrees, short term certificates, and student resources.

Skilled Trades

Social Sciences & Education

Onboarding

Arts & Communications

Guided Pathways are a helm to steer your own life and decide your destiny.
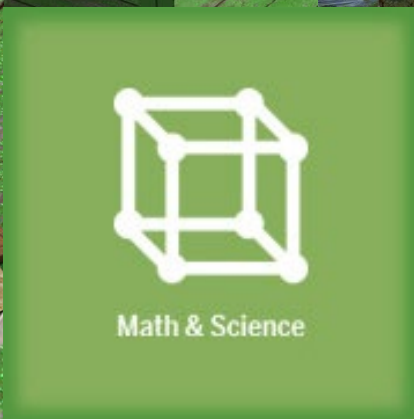
Business & Management
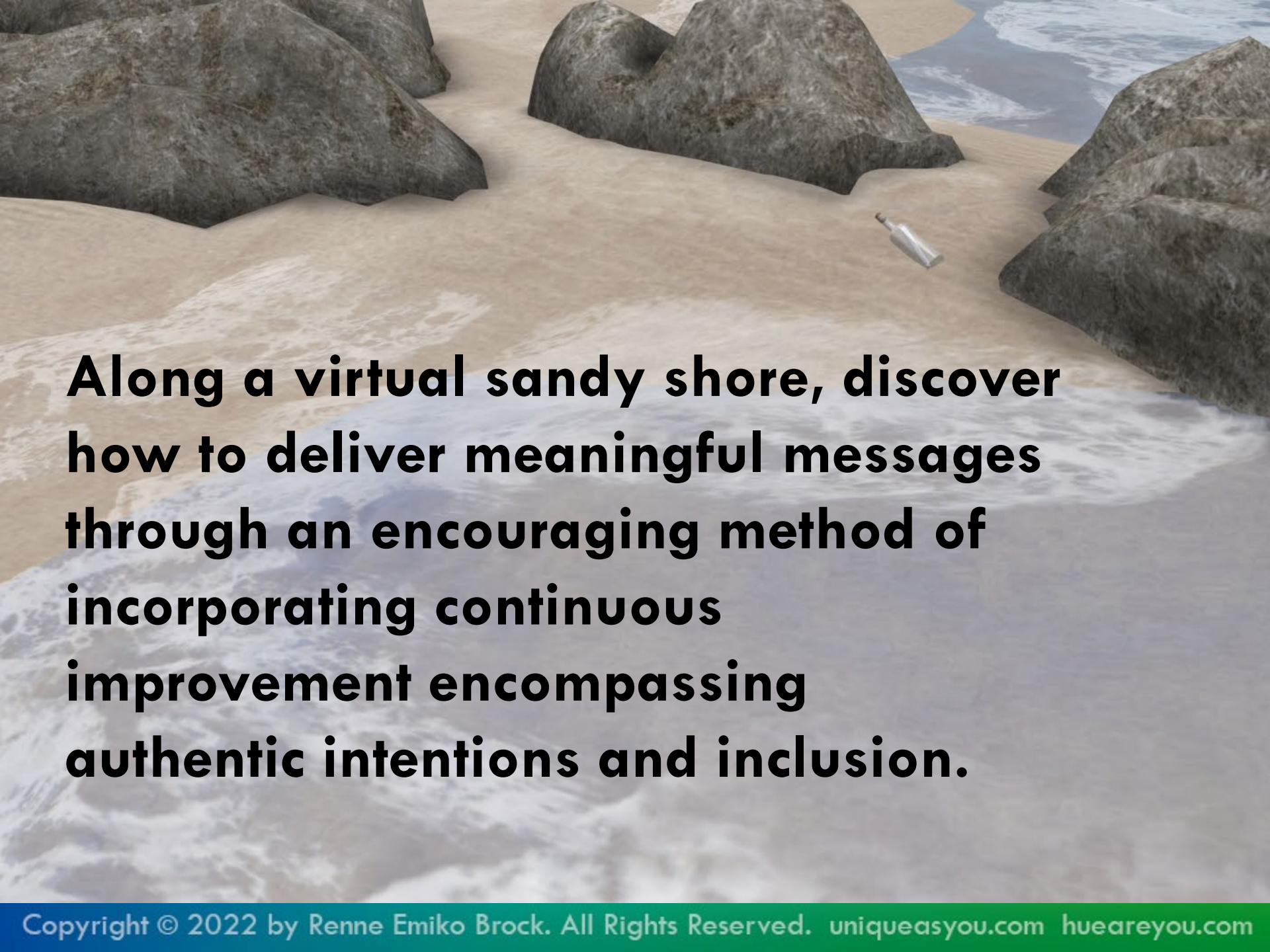
Information Technology

Healthcare

Math & Science

Math & Science

Honors Science Pathways

Honors Science Pathways

PENINSULA COLLEGE

PENINSULA COLLEGE

When life gives you lemons, make lemonade.

Social Sciences & Education

Along a virtual sandy shore, discover how to deliver meaningful messages through an encouraging method of incorporating continuous improvement encompassing authentic intentions and inclusion.

We want to foster students to provide empathetic feedback to support explorative play and productive progress.

And, effectively improve leadership and communication skills with storytelling and creative repetition.

A message in a bottle is about communication, connections, honoring personal journeys, and accepting unexpected discoveries inside and out.

When you throw the bottle in the water, you trust it will make a difference.

In this learning system model, the two parallel interwoven knots demonstrate communication and iteration.

We aim to create safe, challenging methods for students to energize imagination and increase learning agility.

Play

Playing is fearless practice. Create safe, challenging methods for students to energize imagination and increase learning agility.

Stories

All stories have an Introduction, a Conflict, and a Resolution.

Introduction of a hero on a quest.

Conflict of how to successfully tell your tale.

Resolution of the journey, an unexpected reward.
The treasure you seek is within you.

Iteration

Iterative design thinking is a circular cycle like the phases of the moon influencing the waves. Design means a plan and communication to create something amazing and improved. Methods of risk and steadfast assurance fires up creative problem-solving confidence when you know opportunities come around again and again.

Let's explore a set of success classroom guidelines to apply your learning outcomes with playful prototyping, parallax learning approach, and storytelling system that inspires scholarship through iterative design thinking, transformative experiences, and visual vocabulary to effectively inspire achievement.

Then hit the beach!

How to be successful in my courses guidelines

empower others

communicate

affect

express

please take care

do

respect and responsibility

exchange

be kind and brave

teach

share

encourage inquiry

analyze

feel

solutions not excuses

be unique

reward effort

imagine

observe

work smart, not hard

think

support

have courage

be an idealist

express

How to be successful in my courses guidelines:

Communicate.

Broadcasting is one way.

Communication is two way or more, it includes active listening.

communicate

express

Hyflex teaching modalities, which includes online, live, and asynchronous learning, require many opportunities to communicate.

Weekly Check-Ins, essays, and discussion boards creates interaction.
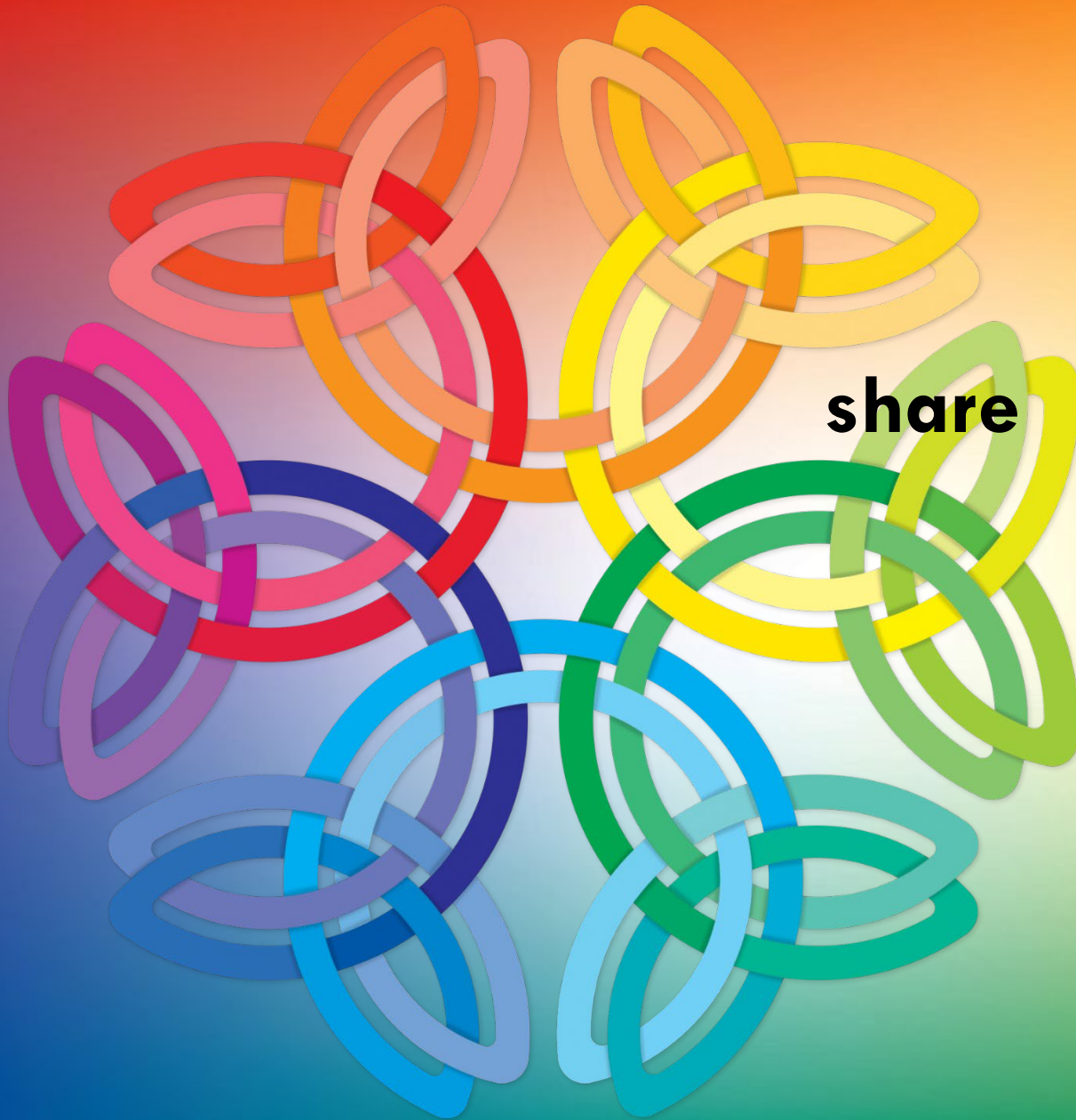
exchange

Respect everyone and take responsibility.

We all in this together.

We are a fellowship and no matter your size or origin, we are equals on this quest.

A team or a consortium is a cooperative partnership that shares objectives on a joint adventure.

respect and responsibility exchange

Acknowledge and thank your team. As a Virtual Worlds Education Consortium Founder Member, we honor and recognize the initiation of was formed between many dedicated advocates who have been actively working together for years.

share

Encourage inquiry and ask questions.

Sometimes the question is more important than the answer.

Inquiry is how we learn not just what or how, but why.

Always contact me if you have questions, concerns, observations, or problems.

encourage
inquiry

share

Inquiry leads to empathy.

Purposely invite people meet others unlike themselves and provide assignments for them tell their stories.

Sharing is caring.

Be unique.

Just be your best self and enjoy what you do.

Create your own media or be sure you have permission to use another creator's media.

Also, I accept proposals to do things a little differently or a creative alternative.

feel

Donika

Angela

McKenzie

Prof. Brock

be unique

feel

Always ask for permission and always be yourself.

"Can I do my Honors Project in Lego?"
"Do we get custom mini-figure?"
"I ordered your parts special."
"We are in accord."

Work smart, not hard.
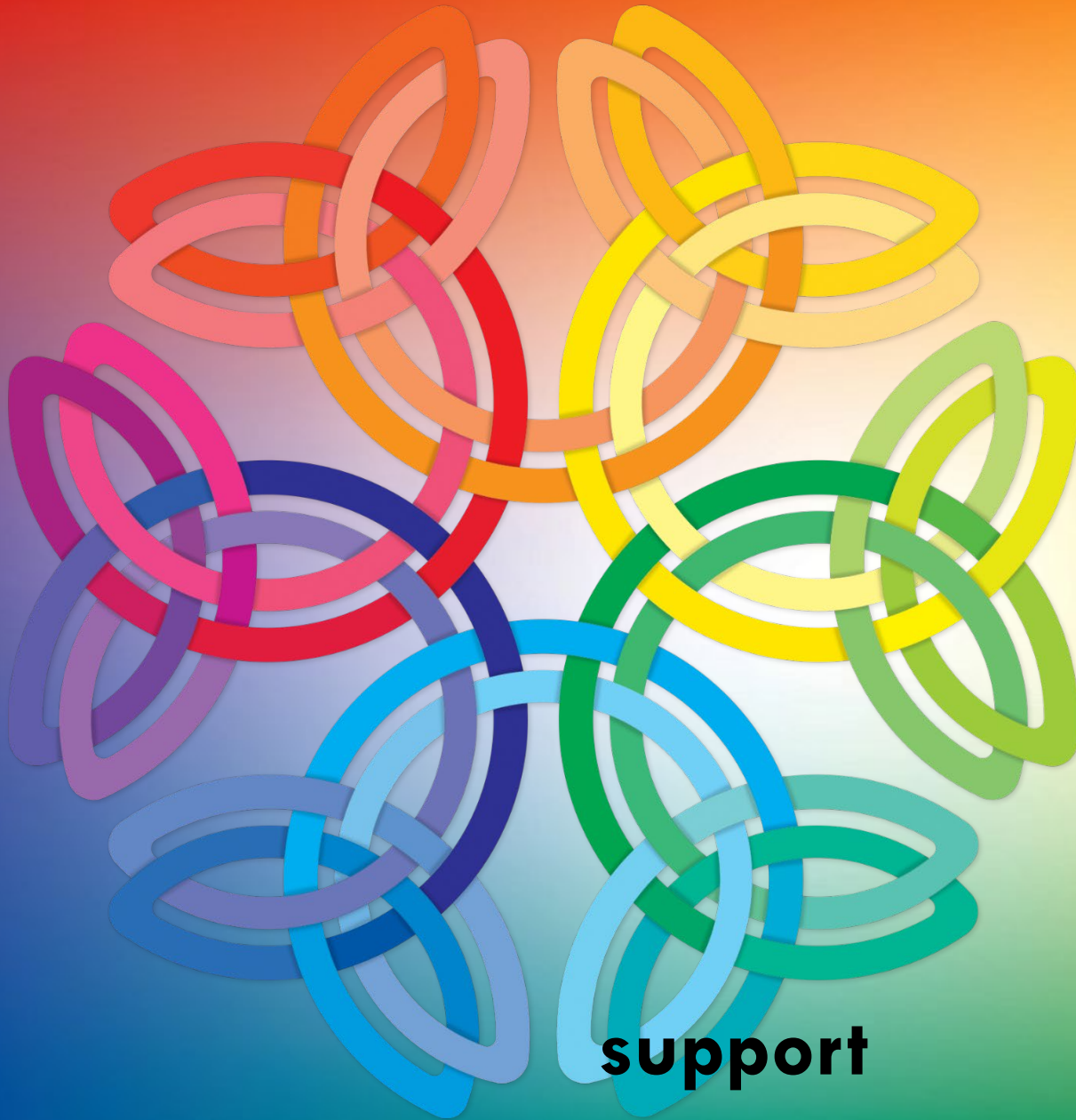
Look ahead to apply your abilities effectively.

Honor your educational opportunity.

observe

work smart, not hard

observe

Take time to observe effective and efficient work habits.

Those scraps of paper could be another project!

Be an Idealist, not a Perfectionist.

Let's have fun and not be afraid to fail. We learn from mistakes and failures.
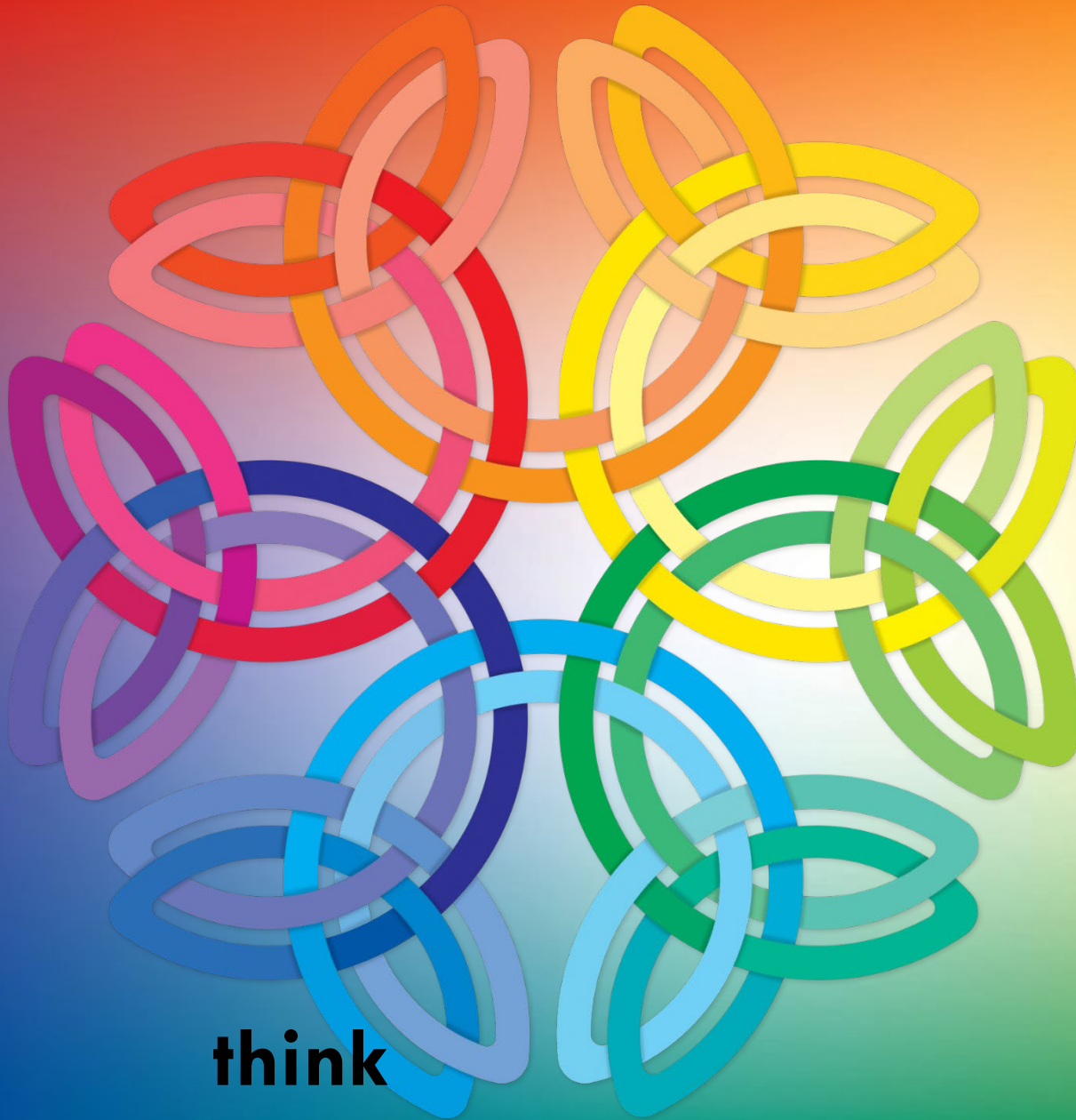
Perseverance!

Some don't start or quit because they expect to be perfect. This is a safe environment to try new things, make epic blunders, and be successful.

support

be an idealist

support

Be supportive STEAM artists and scientists! Play, practice, grow, and teach.

Perfection prevents experimentation and happy discoveries. Let it go, so you can go farther!

Have courage and please don't be afraid to ask for help.

If you have a problem, you will find that I am most understanding of difficult situations that come up that may derail your progress.

think

When trolls mess with the goats, they get the horns!

have courage

think

Asking questions is a sign of high intelligence.

Asking for help is a sign of trust.

Other superheroes hit "beast mode", I go into "big sister mode".

Effort is rewarded.

It is better to turn in something than nothing at all.

You can always turn work in again to improve your earned points.

Awarded Coupon Codes are earned by doing something harder and involve networking as an assignment swap.

imagine

reward effort

imagine

"Hula" coupon code

Take advantage of community opportunities for students to prove what they can do beyond coursework.

They earn way more than just points.

Offer solutions not excuses.

Creative problem-solving is a highly regarded skill.

Trust yourself, your team, and good intentions to support your success.

analyze

solutions
not excuses

analyze

Sometimes students are lost. They just need an opportunity to fine their own path.

They can reach the same destination with freedom to explore. Or, make new worlds.

Starship Quasar

teach

Be kind, brave, and productive.

Give constructive feedback to your classmates.

They are your allies and focus group.

be kind and brave teach

Expressing the truth is kind and efficient.

It must be helpful supportive. Build a crew or team you have open and honest communication with before heading out on an adventure.

do

Please take care.

Eat an energy-packed breakfast.

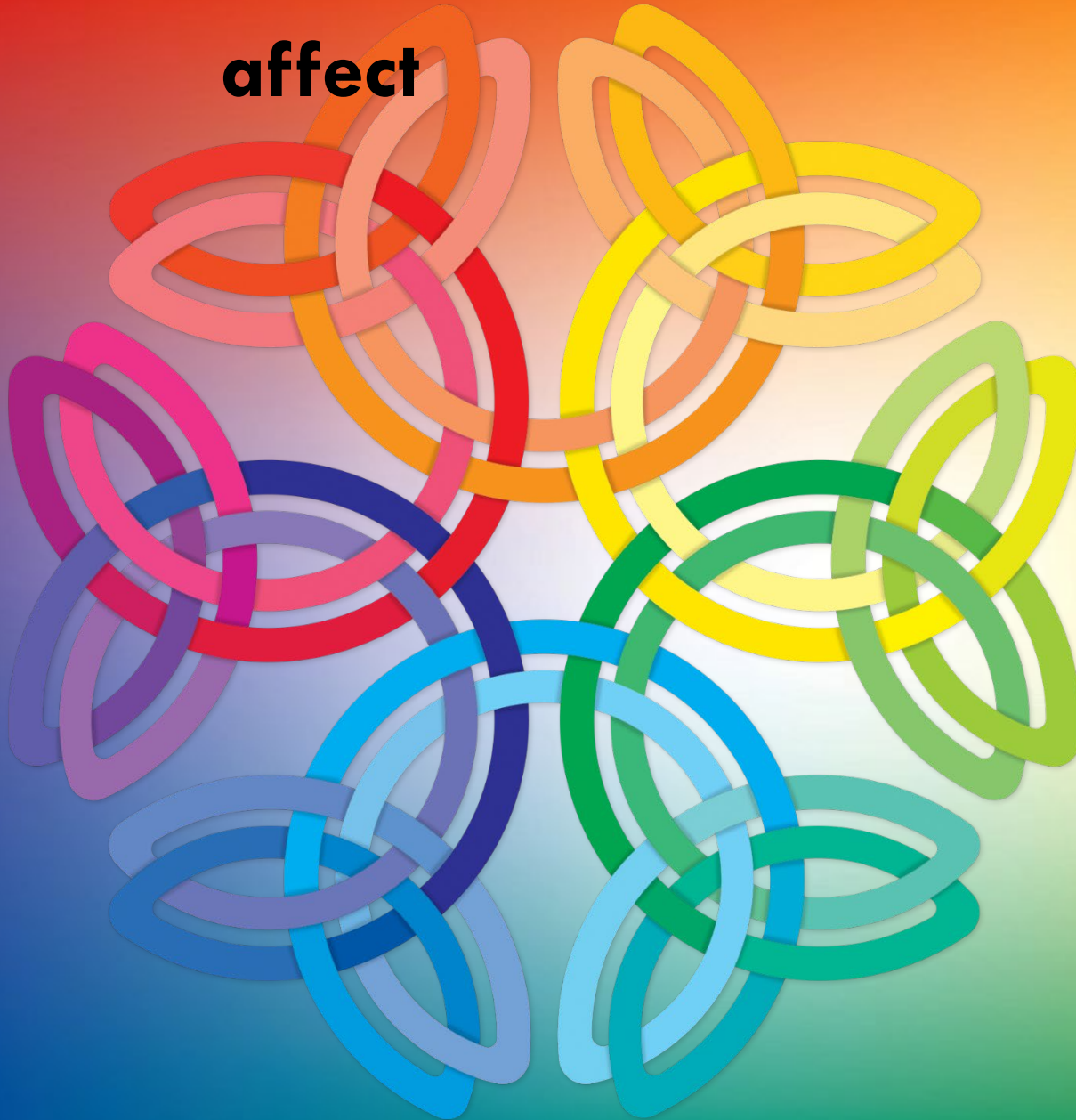**Get enough sleep, otherwise you cannot dream.**

please
take care

do

You gotta have
Second Breakfast!

Include items and
characters that give
you comfort and
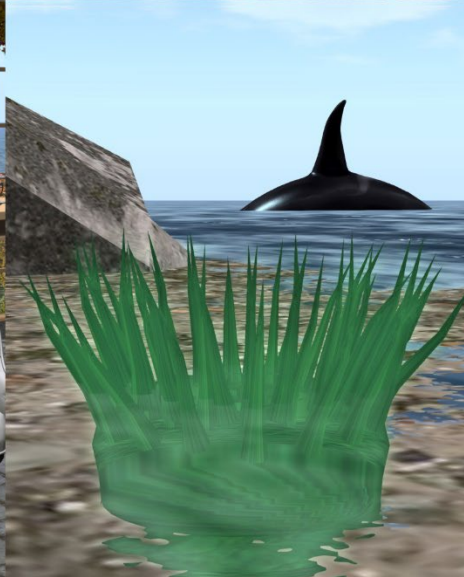make you smile.

Add "trash pandas".

affect

Empower others.

Stand up straight and/or stand up for yourself and others.

Hands on hips!

Create brave spaces.

No matter who you are, you can make a difference in someone's life.

Anyone can be a superhero!

empower others affect

Be super!

Provide opportunities for students to have a voice and a place to impact others.

Let their superpowers shine!

A walk on the
beach reveals the
storytelling themes
of your art and expression.

go play

empower others

communicate

please
take care

respect and
responsibility

be kind
and brave

encourage
inquiry

solutions
not excuses

be unique

reward effort

work smart,
not hard

have courage

be an idealist

Somebody come and play!

In middle school, I would dress up in different outfits based on the interactive story I was hatching that day. Like a safari outfit when searching for the invisible elephants in the library. Using their imagination, I would get everyone to help look for them as we would work, laugh, and play together.

Somebody come and play
Somebody come
and play today
Somebody come
and smile the smiles
And sing the songs
It won't take long
Somebody come and play today

The First Day of School and Parallax Learning

First day with me, students make a Branding Fortune Teller advancing a Gamer Growth Mindset.

A Parallax Learning approach requires a changing perspective or viewpoint to a problem to gain ideal outcome.

What catches your eye?
Your Colors and
Inspiration

communicate

express

What hue are you?

Parallax learning encourages a strategic empathic approach and formulated, growth mindset.

Do you grok?

Equity Flowers
Care and Growth

Welcomed in supportive pots as a foundation, seedlings start to grow into blooms with different barriers or difficult environments. Plants retaining their unique differences while being provided adaptations, assistance, and encouragement to thrive.

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respect and responsibility exchange

Cut flowers do not grow.

Supporting equity and inclusion is paramount. Using Universal Design in learning and thinking assures growth. It is difficult and inspiring work. You can do it.

What do you collect?
Your Visual Vocabulary
and Expressive Medium

What is Visual Vocabulary?

It is your unique lexicon created out of icons, images, photos, animated gifs, video, sculptures, drawings, and visual language without words.

Often we create these as we develop our design style and artistic expression. They may be little scratches that mean something to us, not to our audience.

Or, they are the huge subject and passion of our entire reason for living. They populate our visual stories and create layers of depth through iconic information.

If you have played Pictionary, then you know how important it is to be able to communicate meaning without words.

encourage
inquiry
share

Inquiry leads to empathy.

Purposely invite people meet others unlike themselves and provide assignments for them tell their stories.

Sharing is caring.

Two-Dimensional Design Concepts

be unique

feel

Express yourself with at least 16 pieces of flair!

Students and friends collect my buttons / badges as rewards and small forms of expression. No matter the size, support creative expression.

tell stories

empower others

communicate

please take care

respect and responsibility

be kind and brave

encourage inquiry

solutions not excuses

be unique

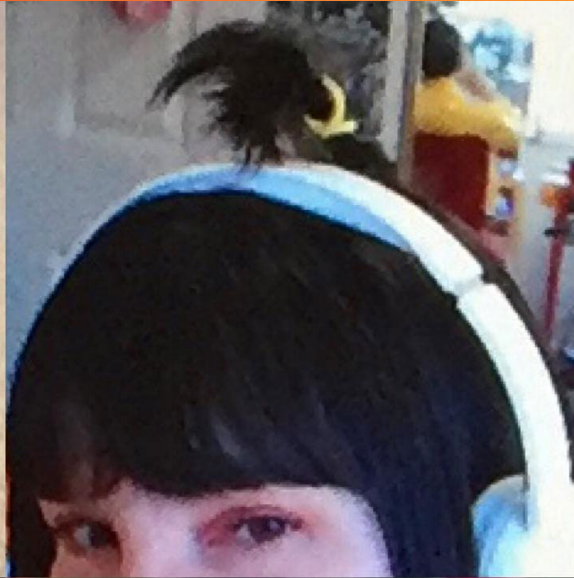reward effort

work smart, not hard

have courage

be an idealist

Pronoia

Paranoia is the fearful and persistent feeling that people are conspiring against you and are 'out to get you'.

Pronoia is the opposite of paranoia.

Pronoia is the productive and positive feeling that the universe conspires to do you good and people want to make you happy.

You have a lot of people scheming to support you toward success

Demonstrate connections, alliteration, rhythm, and rhyme

"And the rhythm of life is a powerful beat

Puts a tingle in your fingers and a tingle in your feet

Rhythm in your bedroom, rhythm in the street

Yes, the rhythm of life is a powerful beat"

– Sweet Charity

Document your process and publicize it

Compared to throwing your message in a bottle and not knowing if it ever makes it to is intended audience, make it easy to be found on social media!
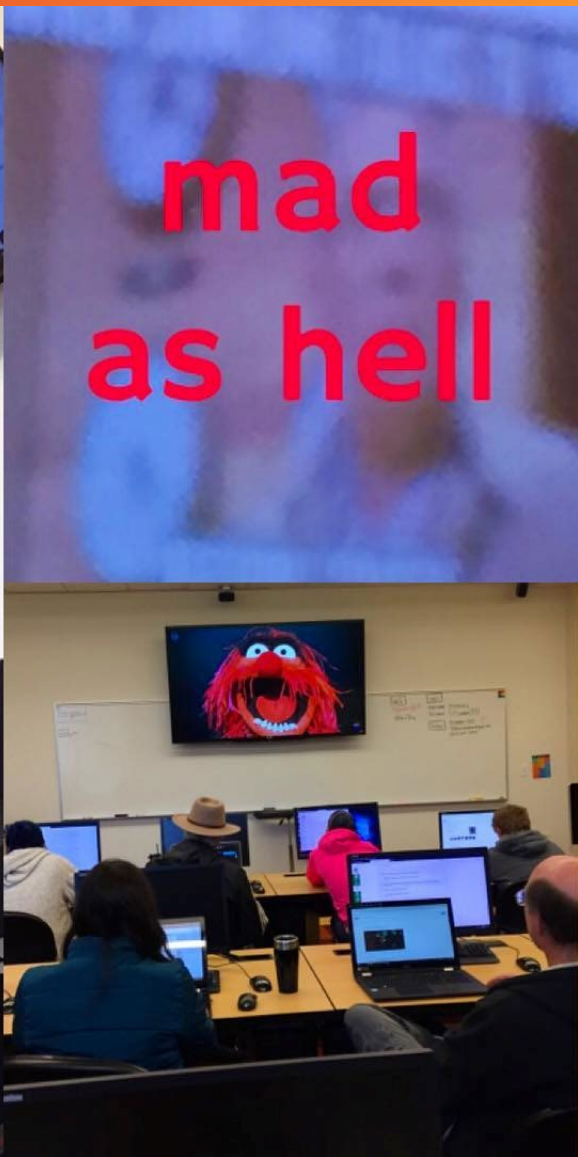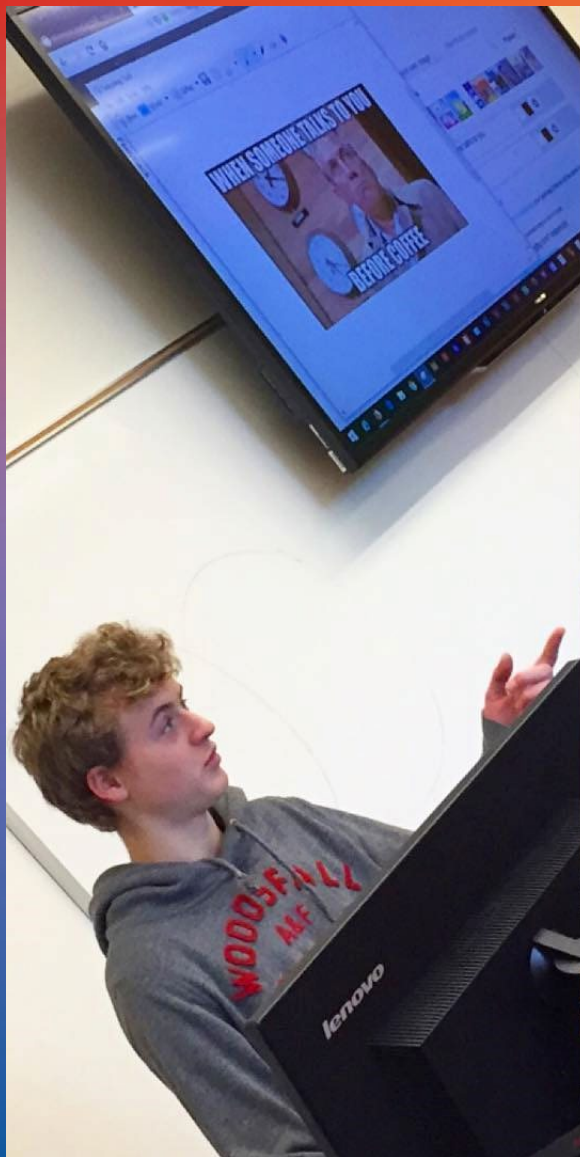
Help with visual learning by take snapshots, screenshots, or video as you go to capture the story full of color and action.

Or, napping. It was a long day of adventure.

What does that message
in a bottle communicate?
Your Fundamental Purpose
and Motivation

We often feel alone and connections are not so easily made. Remote becomes closer when people share their stories of positive perseverance. Your own persistence and dedication to a personal mission inspires others to never give up on their dreams.
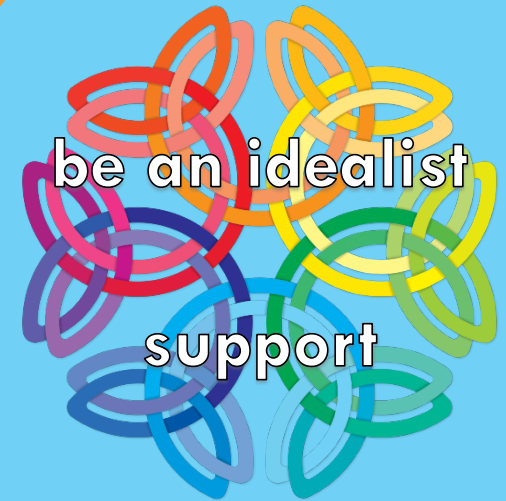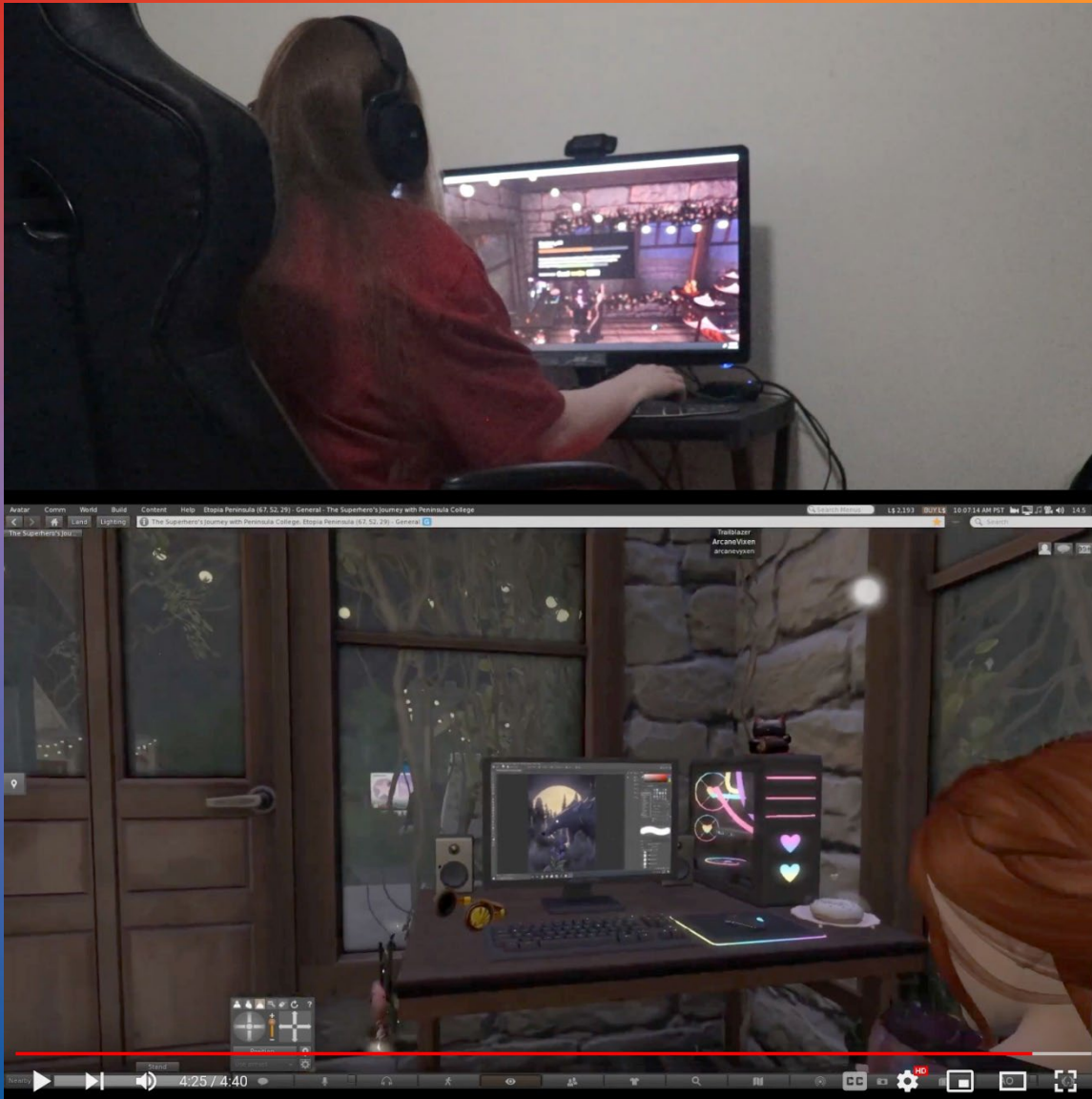
work smart,
not hard

observe

Give yourself time to understand why you or others are frustrated.

Fear halts progress and participation.

Effective communication is met when people want to meet your message.

be an idealist

support

I teach students to do visual bookends.

These support the beginning and the ending of a story or project.

McKenzie and Cassie made an intro to Second Life video.

What creates calm in you?
Your Method and Mastery

have courage

think

We cause Good Trouble.

Asking for help is a sign of trust.

Other superheroes hit "beast mode", I go into "big sister mode".

reward effort

imagine

Even students who are unable to join us in a virtual learning environment contribute with awesome ideas and their classmates help assemble their ideas and curate their work in our storytelling projects and galleries.

iterate to innovate

empower others

communicate

please
take care

respect and
responsibility

be kind
and brave

encourage
inquiry

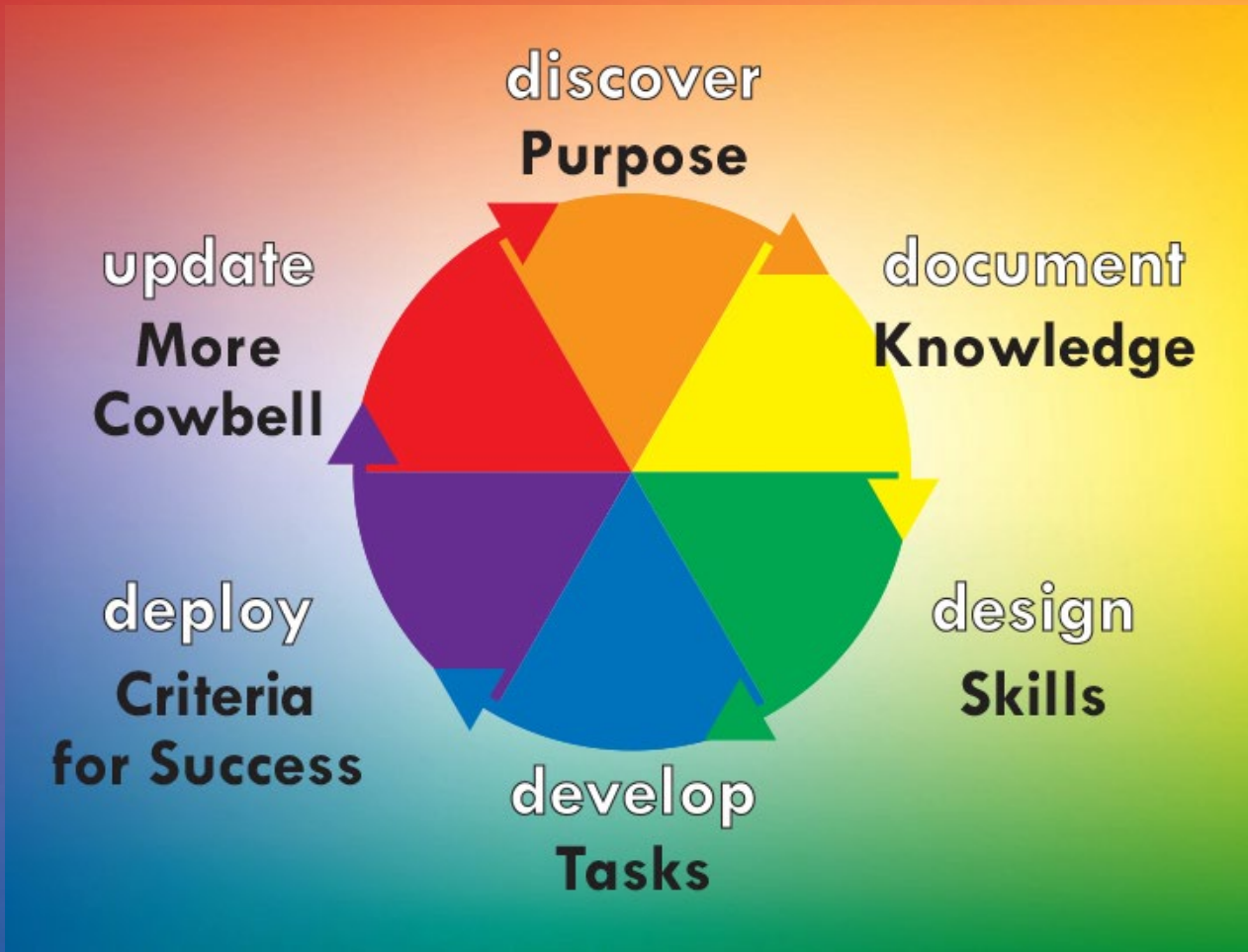solutions
not excuses

be unique

reward effort

work smart,
not hard

have courage

be an idealist

Design Thinking and Media Production iterative process through researching, doing, reviewing, and improving.

Students may experience Transparency In Learning and Teaching (TILT) in some assignments and projects as a communication tool.

Its premise is to make the learning processes explicit and equitably accessible for all students.

The diagram shows a cyclical wheel with the following stages:
- discover **Purpose**
- document **Knowledge**
- design **Skills**
- develop **Tasks**
- deploy **Criteria for Success**
- update **More Cowbell**

Discovery / Purpose

Document / Knowledge

Design / Skills

Develop / Tasks

Deploy / Criteria for Success

Update / Feedback

Design Thinking and Decisive Media Production iterative process through researching, doing, reviewing, and improving.

Students may experience Transparency In Learning and Teaching (TILT) in some assignments and projects as a communication tool.

Its premise is to make the learning processes explicit and equitably accessible for all students.

Loop-D-Loop Lesson!

An Art Practice isn't just doing artistic learning and application over and over again to get better at being creative.

Art or Artistic Practice refers to the ways in which an artist goes about their work.

Artistic practice includes resolve and understanding that goes beyond the physical activities of making art or other creative expression.

Your intentional art practice of creation includes your influences aesthetic choices, research, materials, learning skills, using the physical and…

…integrated skills, and mastering all of those applied creative aspects you use in your art-making processes.

Art making is less about being object based. It is now includes the processed based activities of an artist practice.

Who do you
want to share
the experience with?
Your Audience and Engagement

Meet students where they are at.

Angela evaluated how many students wanted to keep attending Peninsula College to earn a BAS in Multimedia. Her Honors Project was a video advocating it.

be kind
and brave

teach

Strengthen your mast. As a continuum of previous students' stories and sails, new scholars are eager to research their community contribution and define their individual lessons and mission.

Why is the beach important?
Your Challenges and Contribution

please
take care

do

Enhance your calm. Stop! Kitty Time!

Take some time with friends and reflect what is important to you.

Your challenges might be others as well, so team up.
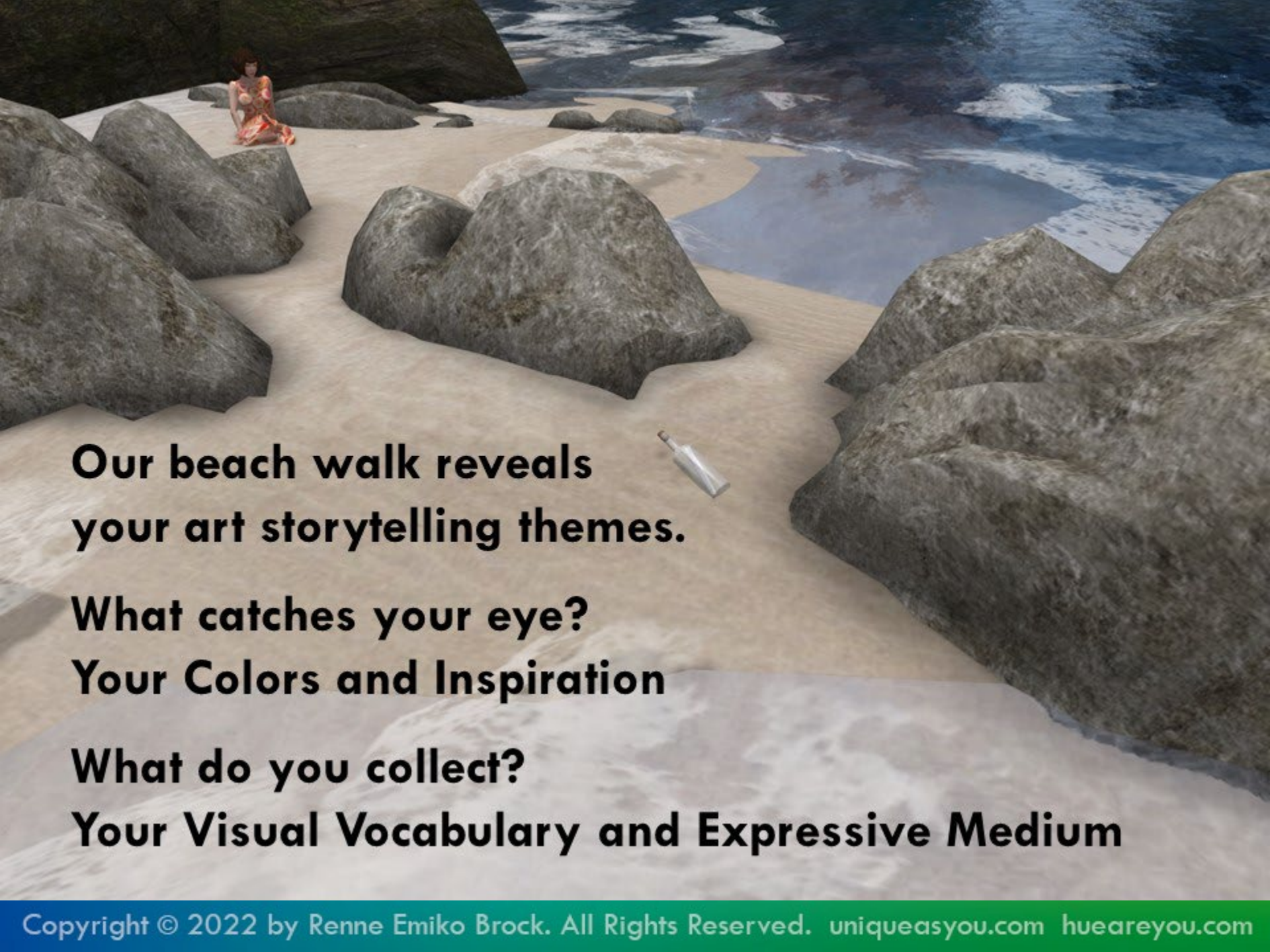
empower
others
affect

Lead by example.

Contribute to the success of others.

Our students will be mentors, teachers, and superheroes.

Stand up for them and they will fly for you.

Our beach walk reveals
your art storytelling themes.

What catches your eye?
Your Colors and Inspiration

What do you collect?
Your Visual Vocabulary and Expressive Medium

What does that message in a bottle communicate?
Your Fundamental Purpose and Motivation

What creates calm in you?
Your Method and Mastery

Who do you want to share the experience with?
Your Audience and Engagement

Why is the beach important?
Your Challenges and Contribution

Themes = the mes

Identity Artist Self

Science Instructor Confidence

Color Superhero Share

Create Contribute Collect

Educate Collaborate Curate

Encourage Community Connect

S'More you listen and share, the s'more you know that you are not alone.

empower others

communicate

please
take care

respect and
responsibility

be kind
and brave

encourage
inquiry

solutions
not excuses

be unique

reward effort

work smart,
not hard

have courage

be an idealist

Share your message in a bottle. You never know where it will lead people.

Or, what path it might light.

Trust your students to help light the way as well.

Communication is two parallel interwoven expressions, separate and together while relaying and supporting.

Waves going to and fro. Keep trying and improving.

Trust yourself!

Thank you very much!

@renneemiko

#besuper

uniqueasyou.com
hueareyou.com

ENHANCE YOUR CALM AND ADVENTURE ON!

We often feel alone and connections are not so easily made. Remote becomes closer when people share their stories of positive perseverance. Your own persistence and dedication to a personal mission inspires others to never give up on their dreams.

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by Renne Emiko Brock / Zinnia Zauber

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